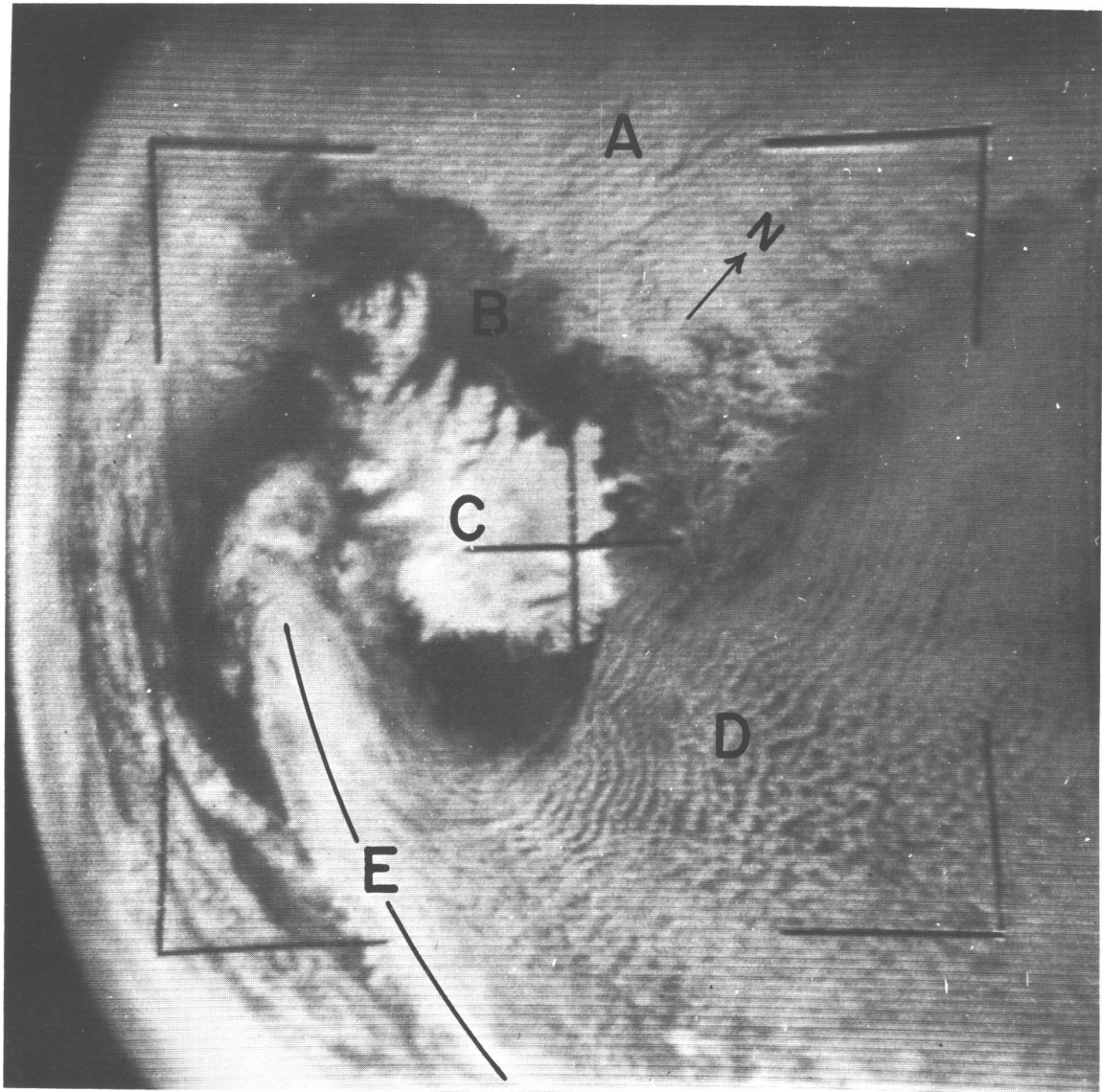


PICTURE OF THE MONTH



Iceland is clearly visible in this TIROS IX photograph (pass 715/714, camera 2, frame 2) taken on March 22, 1965, at 1205 GMT and received at Gilmore Creek, Alaska, via tape mode. The satellite altitude at picture time was approximately 728 km., very near the perigee of the highly elliptical orbit. North is indicated by the arrow.

The surface synoptic analysis for 1200 GMT showed a large ridge of high pressure and generally fair and cold weather over the Greenland-Iceland area, with a northerly flow of Arctic air over the region east of Iceland. Surface temperatures at four Icelandic stations ranged from 9° to 25° F.

The large whitish area (A) north and northwest of Iceland represents mainly an extensive and heavy concentration of sea ice. Some cloudiness (but not overcast) is believed to exist over that region. In the darker area (B) within 50–100 miles of the coast, much smaller concentrations of sea ice were reported (generally less than 3/10 coverage). Iceland itself (C) appears almost completely snow-covered and is also very nearly cloud-free. To the east and northeast, an extensive region of convective cloudiness (D) appears within the northerly flow of cold Arctic air. Many parallel lines of cumuliform elements are discernible. A solid band of frontal cloudiness (E) marks the southern limit of the Arctic air.